



HOUSE REPUBLICAN

2007

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Accelerating Indiana's
Progress

ACCELERATING INDIANA: AN OVERVIEW

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- **DOLLARS FOLLOW THE CHILD**

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- **SENIOR PROTECTION: REQUIRE COMPLETE BACKGROUND CHECKS ON HOME AND GROUP HOME CAREGIVERS**

HOLD THE LINE ON TAXES

- **HONESTLY BALANCED BUDGET**

In 2005, House Republicans worked to pass the first honestly balanced budget in a decade and have pledged to enact a subsequent balanced budget in 2007.

- **NO GENERAL TAX INCREASES**

House Republicans strongly believe that state government already takes a large enough portion of the state's GDP, and we are sensitive to the fact that this money comes right out of taxpayer's checkbooks. The state must live within its current means.

- **COMPREHENSIVE PROPERTY TAX REFORM**

- Support the 2% property tax cap***

With only minor changes, the 2% property tax cap (though highly unpopular with big-spending government units) is a modest promise to taxpayers that state policymakers are serious about keeping our tax burdens down.

- Referenda for public construction projects***

40% of property tax growth annually can be attributed to interest on big-ticket construction projects. Hoosiers deserve the opportunity to voice their support or disapproval of these projects directly and not through anachronistic petition and remonstrance procedures.

- Increased cooperation and efficiency between governments***

The benefits of cost sharing and cooperation are well-known, and the state should encourage local government bodies to investigate all of these efficiency options before giving out more state subsidies.

- Spending limits for government, with options to move away from property tax***

Most people agree that government should start moving away from property taxes; however, people are justifiably leery of giving government unlimited taxing power. We believe state and local governments can work together to start eliminating this reliance, while also ensuring that spending is kept in check.

- Open and Public Budget Adoption***

House Republicans made the final version of the 2005 budget available for 48 hours. The public deserves an equal opportunity to review the 2007 budget.

REFORM EDUCATION

- **SAFE CLASSROOMS**

Actions:

- ✓ Require schools to obtain a thorough federal background check on all those being considered for a position in the classroom.

Currently, only a state background check is performed on teachers when they apply for licensing. Last year, an Indiana school hired a teacher who had pleaded guilty to possessing cocaine with intent to sell in 2000 in another state. The state background check did not uncover this arrest. A complete check by the FBI could have revealed this drug case, in which the teacher was sentenced to 90 days in jail and three years of probation. This individual could have been prevented from being hired, ensuring the classroom remained safe.

Background:

- Indiana's state background check excludes records from other states and has limited scope within state law enforcement records.
- The State will provide funding for the \$39 FBI background check. This will cost around \$8,000 every year based on 3% of current teachers retiring or leaving their positions.
- There are approximately 67,300 teaching professionals (60,500 teachers and 6,800 other certified staff) working in Indiana schools, according to the Department of Education.
- Indiana requires FBI background checks on certain state employees, including those handling finances, working in child services or care for disabled adults in state-run facilities.

- **FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

This initiative will empower local schools by increasing funding and giving added flexibility and control over choosing what programs are needed by their local student population, while providing the means to implement Full-Day Kindergarten.

Actions:

- ✓ Give Block grants for Schools to use in 9 areas as they see fit:
 - 1) Optional Full Day Kindergarten
 - 2) Alternative education
 - 3) Summer school programs
 - 4) Remediation
 - 5) Reading improvement
 - 6) Expansion of gifted and talented programs
 - 7) Professional Development
 - 8) Technology

9) Textbooks

How it works:

- Each school corporation must apply for the grant with a proposal that includes a description of the program that will be enhanced or expanded.
- The maximum amount of the grant will be the school corporation's first grade enrollment number multiplied by \$625 in FY 2008 and \$1250 in FY 2009. Costing approximately \$50M the first year and \$100 the second year. (Based on current total 1st grade enrollment number of approximately 80,000)
- Proposal must be submitted to the Department of Education before October 1st of the school year in which the grant will be used.
- Department of Education must review and approve ONLY grants that expand or enhance programs on the list and that DO NOT replace any funding the school currently has.

• HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER IN EVERY CLASSROOM

Actions:

- ✓ Creation and Implementation of a the **Indiana Excellence in Teaching Program** as a statewide PILOT program in districts that choose to participate:

MULTIPLE CAREER PATHS

- ❖ Offering more opportunities for responsibility and commensurate pay, such as master and mentor teacher roles.

ONGOING APPLIED PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

- ❖ Provides embedded professional development regularly during the school day, by providing time for teachers to meet, learn, plan, mentor and share with other teachers.

INSTRUCTIONALLY FOCUSED ACCOUNTABILITY

- ❖ Incorporates fair evaluations based on academic growth of students in the classroom and students in the school.

PERFORMANCE-BASED COMPENSATION

- ❖ Allows salaries and bonuses to be tied to responsibilities, classroom performance and student achievement growth.

Actions:

- ✓ Creation of a statewide pilot program for voluntary teacher competency testing with incentives.

How it works:

- Opportunity for teachers to take competency tests in their specific teaching areas and receive annual bonus pay for passing.
- Teachers opting to complete test would receive a \$1,000 annual pay increase upon passing.

Research shows the most important school-related factor in student achievement is having a highly qualified teacher in the classroom. It is hopeful there will be 10-20 school districts opting to participate in either of these pilot programs. At this point, there is no estimated cost for these initiatives.

Background:

- 14 states offer bonus pay to attract teachers to high-poverty districts.
- 5 states specifically link teacher pay to student achievement.
- In Massachusetts, Gov. Mitt Romney has made compensation based pay a centerpiece of his education reform plan. His proposal would give \$5,000 bonuses to teachers whose students show exceptional achievement gains, based on a sophisticated analysis of student test scores.
- In Indiana, compensation based pay is prohibited under collective bargaining law.

● **REVAMPED SPRING ISTEP TESTING**

ISTEP testing in the spring can be used to assess student progress over the course of the school year. Testing at the beginning of the fall term means that students are assessed on the previous year's instruction. Around the state, the first weeks of school are used almost universally for test preparation. In turn, this has caused school districts to continually move up their fall starting date to get a jump on the competition. Moving testing to the spring has been a House Republicans proposal for the past several years. This initiative will move the bulk of ISTEP to the spring with testing throughout the year; making it a simpler, shorter and less expensive test.

Actions:

- ✓ Move ISTEP from the fall to a comprehensive year-end test in the spring
- ✓ Provide schools with options for short tests throughout the year to determine students' progress.

Background:

- Costs for this move are projected to be \$0 – 15 million.
- 70% of Hoosiers favor moving the ISTEP to the spring, according to an Indianapolis Star report on an Indiana University survey conducted in November of 2005.
- 81% of teachers favored spring testing according to a scientific poll in 2002 by Project E. (Sagamore Institute, "Moving ISTEP to Spring Isn't the Only Change Needed," Oct. 17, 2005)

- **EXPANDED EDUCATION OPTIONS FOR HOOSIER FAMILIES**

- 1. SCHOLARSHIP TAX CREDITS**

- Actions:**

- ✓ Businesses can receive a tax credit for donations to scholarship organizations or school improvement organizations.

- How it works:**

- Business can receive a credit against their state taxes of 75 cents for every dollar they invest up to \$20,000.
 - Tax credit is capped at a total of \$10 million for public and private school scholarship donations.
 - Department of Revenue will work with organizations to disseminate tax credit allocations. (i.e.: organizations contact Dept. of Rev. to receive certain number of allocations in which they can use to solicit donations)
 - Flexibility with reallocation of unused allocations.

- Background:**

- This proposal is based on the Pennsylvania model and according to research by the Heritage Foundation, businesses have been eager to participate. Last year, contributions hit the cap for private school scholarships just days after tax credits became available, raising \$44 million to help 27,000 students attend private schools.
 - Florida, Arizona, Rhode Island, New Jersey, and Maryland all have scholarship tax credits similar to this.

- 2. FAMILY EDUCATION TAX CREDIT**

- Actions:**

- ✓ Provide an income tax credit for education expenditures for qualified students of lower-income families enrolled in K-12 at a school of choice.

- How it Works:**

- Lower-income (up to 175% of federal poverty level) families with qualified students are eligible for a maximum tax credit of \$3,000, but limited to actual costs incurred. Credit is refundable.
 - "Qualified Students" eligible for the tax credit: 1) those that switch from public to non-public school (includes home school); 2) those that were not enrolled in school in the year prior to enrollment in non-public school (new 1st graders); 3) students paying transfer tuition to attend a public school outside their school district of legal residence.
 - State Fiscal Impact: 2008-2013: avg. \$1.5M per year; 2014-2019: \$1.5-20M per year; Once twelve full cohorts of students are eligible in 2020

and beyond: approximately \$24M per year.

Note: This proposal WILL NOT negatively affect per-student funding for public schools and would likely increase it due to the way the school formula calculates school funding.

Background:

- School of Choice is defined as a non-public school or a public school if it is not the public school where the child has legal residence.
- Federal Poverty Level Guidelines for Family of 4:
100% - 175% of federal poverty level = income of \$20,000 - \$35,000

3. PROTECT AND EXPAND CHARTER SCHOOL OPTIONS

Actions:

- ✓ Protect gains made for charter schools over the last 5 years.
- ✓ Expand funding and charter options.

Charter schools continue to provide alternative options for students and their families. They offer students flexible and innovative choices, while providing parents, students, community members and local entities expanded opportunities for involvement in the public school system.

Background:

- Since their creation in 2001, thirty-six charter schools have opened in Indiana, 16 of them in Indianapolis.
- Currently, the Mayor of Indianapolis, Public Universities and Public School Corporations can serve as sponsors.
- Ball State is the only university to sponsor charter schools in Indiana.
- Public charter schools that have been open 10 years or more scored 12 points higher in math than conventional public schools. (Indianapolis Star, Indiana, February 9, 2006)

• **FOCUS DOLLARS ON CLASSROOM SPENDING**

Actions:

- ✓ Continue to focus on increased classroom spending and examine recommendations from the Government Efficiency Commission.

In 2006, House Republicans enacted HEA1006, which requires yearly increased classroom spending with annual reporting to the General Assembly. It also allows schools to use savings in reduced non-classroom expenditures for things like insurance pooling, aggregate gas purchasing and pooled purchasing for items such as buses, fuel, food, facility management, etc. Schools have been given the authority and support for effective local decisions that reduce overhead. Enacted in 2005, was a directive to the Government Efficiency Commission to study and make recommendations to reform K-12 education funding and budgeting as it related to non-classroom expenditures in

order to ensure adequate dollars are available for teacher training and classroom instruction. These recommendations were released in mid-October 2006.

Background:

- State Board of Education is in the process of creating categories in order to set classroom spending goals for schools. The focus needs to be on this and encouraging schools to move to these goals.
- For every 1% of current school spending that is moved to the classroom, an additional \$100 million in classroom spending is made available.

- **DOLLARS FOLLOW THE CHILD**

Actions:

- ✓ Protect changes made to school funding formula ensuring that taxpayer dollars follow students and not institutions.

The school funding formula created in HB 1001-2005 eliminated a provision guaranteeing school corporations would receive more money even if they were educating fewer students. Because of such past minimum guarantees, most schools with declining enrollment realized large increases in dollars per student, while most growing schools suffered significant decreases in dollars per student. This caused the drastic imbalance in funding per student across our state, which was remedied by the new funding formula. This new formula ensures students benefit from taxpayer dollars, not educational institutions.

CREATE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERY HOOSIER

- **PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE LEGISLATIVE GAINS OF 2005 & 2006**

Through efforts of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) and other legislative enactments in 2005 and 2006, Indiana is breaking ground on economic recovery and new job creation. Our primary goal will be to protect and enhance historical achievements accomplished during this 114th General Assembly.

- **Enactments of 2005-2006, Launching Economic Development Forward in Indiana:**
 - ✓ Adopted Single sales apportionment factor
 - ✓ Extension of EDGE credit to smaller employers
 - ✓ Major Moves
 - ✓ Daylight Saving Time
 - ✓ Reshaping the IEDC
 - ✓ Small business regulatory reform
 - ✓ Headquarters relocation tax credit
 - ✓ Removed sales tax from R&D equipment
 - ✓ Statewide expansion of tax abatement for logistical distribution and IT equipment
 - ✓ Empowered local governments with tools to attract new business through TIF and tax abatement
 - ✓ Created and enhanced clean and renewable energy tax credits
- Since January of 2005, there are 80,000 more Hoosiers working today. (Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development)
- From January 2005, through December 2006, over 38,000 new jobs and plant expansions have been announced. (Source: Indiana Economic Development Corporation)
- Indiana has the lowest unemployment rate among our neighboring states. (Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics)
- Indiana has moved from 18th to from 6th in the nation for top business climate and has been ranked as the 9th best climate for small businesses in the nation. (Source: Site Selection Magazine 11/05; Small Business and Entrepreneurship Council Index, 10/05)

- **HOOSIER BUSINESS INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT AND R&D CREDIT PERMANENT**

Making these tax credits permanent will add stability to our business tax code, and encourage future business investment in Indiana. The HBITC is an income tax credit awarded by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation to qualified new business investments in Indiana. The credit may be approved for a value of up to 10% of the cost of the investment. The HBITC is currently set to expire on December 31, 2011.

- Since 2005, there have been 73 projects generating \$1.2 billion in New Investment.

- **RENEW THE VENTURE CAPITAL TAX CREDIT**

One of the most glaring obstacles to attracting and retaining entrepreneurs in Indiana is access to risk capital. This tax credit is a key tool available to State government as it seeks to address this problem. The VC Tax Credit is an income tax credit awarded by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation to individuals or businesses that provides equity capital or an unsecured loan to a qualified high tech Indiana business. The credit is equal to 20% of the amount in capital invested (but may not exceed \$500,000 per taxpayer and \$12.5 million statewide each year). The VC Tax Credit is currently set to expire on December 31, 2008...we will extend it for another five (5) years through December 31, 2013.

- **TAX EXEMPTION FOR PATENT-DERIVED INCOME**

To further make the case for entrepreneurs building high-paying, knowledge-based businesses to stay in or move to Indiana, the tax environment for these businesses also needs to be distinctly attractive. Exempting income derived from the licensing or commercialization of patented technology for taxation will send a clear signal that Indiana wants to attract these businesses.

To target small businesses, eligibility for this tax exemption would be restricted to:

- 1) only patents issued to companies designated as “small entities” by the US Patent Office (< 500 employees); and
- 2) only the first \$5M per year of patent-derived income; and
- 3) Indiana-domiciled businesses only.

Only income derived from patents issued after December 31, 2007 would qualify for this tax exemption. The duration of this exemption would be limited to 10 years per patent.

Estimated Fiscal Impact: Data necessary to accurately estimate the effect of this proposed tax change has not yet been compiled. Once credible fiscal data is available, we may have to consider adding more conditions or restrictions on this tax exemption to ensure that the benefits are directed at the desired target and that any impact on State tax revenues is acceptable.

- **HOOSIER ENTREPRENEURIAL LIFT PROGRAM (H.E.L.P.)**

Combines several programs specifically targeted to small business growth and development.

- ✓ **Small Business Export Assistance** – Additional funding to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) for technical and financial assistance to small businesses seeking to engage in global commerce. The goal is to help more Indiana businesses to export products...not jobs!

Estimated Cost: under \$500,000 per year

- ✓ **Enhanced Small Business Development Center Program** – To build a more robust and well-coordinated SBDC program in Indiana offering comprehensive support and assistance to small businesses across the state. Currently Indiana ranks second lowest in the Midwest for State financial commitment to its SBDC program (measured as State \$ per Federal \$) at < 30¢. The Midwest average is approx. 50¢ of State funding for every \$1 of Federal Small Business Administration funding. By doubling the State appropriation to Indiana’s SBDC program (administered by the IEDC), we can bring our financial commitment to small business development up to just above the Midwest average. All additional

State funding must be used for supplementing the regional SBDC program offices across the state...not IEDC administrative costs.

Estimated Cost: \$500,000 million per year

- ✓ **Small Business Review of All State Economic Development Incentives** - To ensure that small businesses owners are not inadvertently discouraged or precluded from accessing incentives simply because they are poorly designed or difficult to administer.
- ✓ **1% Unemployment Insurance Premium Rate for New Businesses** - To lower a financial barrier facing all new business start-ups. The current UI premium rate for new employers in Indiana is 2.7% (applied to first \$7,000 of wages). Lowering this rate to 1% (the minimum allowable under Federal law) would reduce UI costs for new employers by 63% and place Indiana as the lowest in the nation for per employee UI costs for new, start-up businesses (\$70 for Indiana vs. \$290 national average). The new employer rate stays in place for 36 months, until the employer has an employment history sufficient to set their rate based on the regular UI premium schedule.

Potential Business Impact: *Lowering the new employer premium rate to 1% (a significant 63% reduction) could put pressure on the Dept. of Workforce Development to seek a small UI premium rate increase (maybe 3% - 5%) for all existing businesses to ensure that the UI Fund maintains sufficient reserves. Therefore, this lower new employer rate will not be triggered unless the balance in the UI Trust Fund improves sufficiently to cause DWD to switch from Schedule A premiums to Schedule B premiums...providing lower rates to all employers. It is our intent to initially sunset this provision to provide an opportunity to re-examine the issue before making a permanent change.*

- **TOP TO BOTTOM REVIEW OF INDIANA'S BUSINESS TAXES AND ANNUAL MONITORING OF INDIANA'S TAX CLIMATE**

To remain competitive, State leaders must clearly understand how the business tax climate in Indiana compares to other states. Since tax laws in Indiana and across the country are constantly changing, regularly tracking such changes is essential. This review will be undertaken by a joint effort between the IEDC and the Office of Management

GET TOUGH ON CRIME

- **MAKE VIOLENT FELONS SERVE THEIR TIME**

Actions:

- ✓ The Republican Truth in Sentencing proposal will require violent offenders to serve at least 85% of their sentence before they become eligible for release.

Indiana is one of the few states that grants prisoners a full day of good time credit for every day they serve in the prison system, with the requirement that 50% of a sentence must be served before eligibility for parole can be considered. This initiative will ensure those committing the worst offenses serve the majority of their sentence.

Background:

- Applies to offenses including murder, rape, sexual assault, robbery, assault, and larceny.
- There are 29 states that have the 85% requirement in place.
- Nationally, the average offender serves only 51% of their sentence. (US Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics)
- There are currently 2400 available beds within the Indiana Department of Corrections. (Office of Indiana Governor)

- **VIOLENT OFFENDER REGISTRY**

Actions:

- ✓ Create a Violent Offender Registry, similar to the Sex Offender Registry.

The Violent Offender Registry will allow Hoosiers to be aware of potentially dangerous convicted felons who are living in their community and can be maintained in conjunction with the Sex Offender Registry. This information can help citizens protect themselves and their children from violent offenders and allow them to alert law enforcement in cases where a registrant has committed criminal activity. The registry will contain the name, address and photo of violent offenders.

Background:

- Montana has a law similar to this. The state has 2,069 individuals registered as violent offenders and 1,513 individuals registered as sex offenders.

- **METH OFFENDER REGISTRY**

Actions:

- ✓ Create a Methamphetamine Registry, allowing individuals to search for those convicted of Meth-related crimes.

This initiative creates a Meth Registry that is a database containing information on individuals who have been convicted of manufacturing Methamphetamine. It is possible this registry could be maintained in conjunction with the Sex Offender Registry. Information included in the database would be the offender's name, birth date, and location. Unlike sex offender registries, Meth Offender Registries do not require the offender to register themselves; rather, the information is sent directly from the courts to the registry. This registry would enable Indiana residents to know who is committing Meth crimes and where their dangerous labs have been located.

Background:

- Tennessee, Montana, Minnesota and Illinois have similar laws.
- In 1993, there were 3 methamphetamine treatment admissions per 100,000 people in Indiana. By 2003, the number increased by over 900%.
(www.drugabusestatistics.samhsa.gov/2k6/methTx/methTX.htm)
- According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, roughly 25% of convicted property and drug offenders committed crimes to get money to buy drugs.
- Since the 2005 Methamphetamine law restricting the sale of products used to manufacture meth went into effect, the seizures of meth labs have decreased by 24% in Indiana.

- **STOP KILLING COPS**

ACTIONS:

- ✓ Ensure those convicted of killing law enforcement officers receive the death penalty.

Currently, when an officer is killed in the line of duty, it is an aggravating circumstance that allows for the death penalty; however this stricter penalty is not required. This initiative sends a strong message that the State of Indiana will not tolerate the killing of police officers.

How it Works:

- Mandatory death penalty or life without parole for a person convicted of killing a police officer in the line of duty.
- Same penalty applies to an off-duty officer, acting as an officer and identifying themselves as an officer, either assisting a victim or stopping a crime.
- Automatic waive into adult court of any juvenile who kills a police officer or off-duty officer (as stated above). Although there is no death penalty of juveniles in Indiana, the life without parole provision would apply.
- The cost of defending these crimes from the County Prosecutor's Office or Public Defender's Office will be moved to the State.

Background:

- According to the FBI, 27 officers have been murdered in Indiana since 1987, including at least 16 in the last 10 years.
- On average, a county has paid \$219,346 in each of their death penalty cases prosecuting cop killers. If the State would have picked up the entire tab for prosecuting capital trials in each of the last 16 murdered officers, it would have cost an additional \$3.5 million.

- **IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION**

Actions:

- ✓ Create the Indiana Security Freeze program, which will allow Hoosier consumers to place a security freeze on their credit report.
 - ❖ How it works:
 - Consumers contact each of the credit reporting agencies in writing by certified mail.
 - The freeze will be placed on their credit report within five days.
 - The consumer is issued a unique PIN.
 - A reasonable fee is charged to non-victims; service to victims is free.
 - No credit report is issued without proper personal identification and PIN.
 - Credit bureaus must issue the report within a reasonable time frame.

Identity theft is the fastest growing crime in the nation. In the past few years, the General Assembly has enacted provisions to protect social security numbers and to require government and businesses to alert consumers of breaches in secure personal information. This initiative, modeled after Utah's law, will actually give consumers the power and ultimate control over their identity by allowing them to govern who has access to their credit report and when.

Background:

- Approximately, 4,200 Hoosiers were the victims of identity theft in 2004 according to the Federal Trade Commission's Sentinel database.
- Indiana ranks 17th in the nation among the worst states for becoming a victim of identity theft.
- According to a January 2005 study by the research firm Javelin, 9.3 million adults — one in 24 Americans — reported being victims of identity theft.
- Victims now spend an average of 600 hours recovering from this crime, often over a period of years. Three years ago the average was 175 hours of time, representing an increase of about 2470%. (Source: The new ITRC study, Identity Theft: The Aftermath)
- Based on 600 hours times the indicated victim wages, this equals nearly \$16,000 in lost potential or realized income. (Source: The new ITRC study, Identity Theft: The Aftermath)

- Based on the ITRC study, today the business community loses between \$40,000 - \$92,000 per name in fraudulent charges, based on reported fraud losses seen by surveyed victims.
- Utah, Kansas, Hawaii have enacted security freeze legislation.

- **PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM PEDOPHILES & SEX OFFENDERS**

Actions:

- ✓ Increase penalties for those who prey upon children through the Internet.

This proposal would amend the crime of *child solicitation via the Internet*, by enhancing the penalty from a Class C felony to Class B felony. With many recent accounts of teens falling victim to predators posing as someone else over the Internet, there must be stronger penalties in place in an attempt to deter these individuals from preying on the most vulnerable of victims.

Background:

- According to Highlights of the Youth Internet Safety Survey conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice, 1 in 5 children ages ten to seventeen years old received unwanted sexual solicitations online.
- It is estimated that 25% of girls and 10% of boys are sexually exploited before they reach adulthood.

- **SENIOR PROTECTION: REQUIRE COMPLETE BACKGROUND CHECKS ON HOME AND GROUP HOME CAREGIVERS**

Actions:

- ✓ Require complete and thorough federal criminal background checks on any caregiver that provides services in a client's home or group setting.

Requiring a more thorough background check on anyone working in a client's home will protect seniors and other vulnerable citizens, give them peace of mind and lessen chances for future crime to be committed.

Background:

- Between one and two million Americans age 65 or over have been injured, exploited or otherwise mistreated by someone on whom they depend for care or protection. (Elder Mistreatment: Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation in an Aging America, National Research Council Panel to Review Risk and Prevalence of Elder Abuse and Neglect, Washington, D.C., 2003)
- 89.3% of alleged elder abuse occurs in a domestic setting. (www.elderabusecenter.org/pdf/2-14-06%2060FACT%20SHEET.pdf)
- There was more than a 10% increase in reports of elder abuse from 2000-2004 according to the National Center on Elder Abuse.